Allotment of petrol pumps

847. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) total number of petrol pumps that has been allotted during the years 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 after inviting applications through advertisements, State-wise;

(b) how many petrol pumps have been allotted to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and physically handicapped categories during the periods;

(c) whether the quota for these categories have been fulfilled;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to fill up these reserved quota?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (e) As per the existing policy 25% and 5% dealerships/distributorships are reserved for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes and Physically Handicapped category respectively under the normal selection procedure through Dealer Selection Boards. During the years 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 the Oil Companies have allotted a total of 419 retail outlet dealerships all over the country. Of these 84, 38 and 26 retail outlets were allotted to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Physically Handicapped category respectively.

The dealerships/distributorships earmarked for a particular category are allotted to the persons belonging to that particular category only.